



St. Paul's Church of England Primary Newsletter October 24

Friday 18th October 2024

From the words of St. Paul... 'Encourage one another and build each other up.'

Headteacher news

What a whirlwind of activity and magic we've experienced this half term! It's been a joy to see our school buzzing with energy and enthusiasm, and I'm delighted to share some highlights with you all.

First, I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the parents who attended our early maths workshops this week. Your engagement in your children's learning journey is invaluable, and we hope these sessions provided useful insights and strategies to support your little ones at home.

Our recent coffee afternoon in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support was a resounding success, thanks to your incredible generosity. The delicious cakes donated and the time given by so many of you resulted in an impressive £265.07 raised, not including the additional online donations. Your kindness will make a real difference to those affected by cancer, and we're immensely proud of our school community's compassion.

Looking ahead, we'll be supporting the Poppy Appeal after the half-term break. We'll send out more information about this important cause when we return, so please keep an eye out for updates.

I'm thrilled to announce that our Scholastic Book Fair was a tremendous hit! Thanks to your enthusiasm for reading and your purchases, we've earned £204 in Scholastic rewards. This fantastic sum will be

invested directly back into our school and class libraries, enriching the reading experiences of all our pupils.

Now, an important reminder for our Year 6 parents: the deadline for high school applications is rapidly approaching. If you haven't yet applied for your child's high school place, please note that the closing date is 31st October 2024. It's crucial that every family submits their application for their child's chosen high school by this date. Your child's future educational journey is important, and we want to ensure that no one misses this vital deadline.

As we wrap up this half term, I want to express my gratitude for your continued support and involvement in our school community. The partnerships we forge between home and school are the foundation of our pupils' success, and your engagement makes a world of difference.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half-term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting chapter in our school year, filled with learning, growth, and more magical moments.

Starting Reception in 2025 or moving onto high school ...

STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2025...

For families living in the Lancashire area who require a primary or secondary school place in September 2025 you can now apply online via Lancashire's online system at:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools

This is a quick and easy way and offers an email receipt of all submitted applications. Please ensure that you hit the 'submit' button when you are ready to send in your completed online application.

You must apply even if you have siblings at your preferred school or academy.

The closing dates for applications for September 2025 are at 11.59pm on:

Secondary applications - 31st October 2024

Primary applications - 15th January 2025



St Paul's Rights Respecting School

Our Rights Ambassadors have got off to a flying start this half term with their work on improving rights for all rights holders and duty bearers in school.

They have worked in their classes to lead sessions on 'The Right to Play.' They then brought all of the children's fantastic ideas back to our meeting to write a Playground Charter. This will build on and support our Class Charters which we use within school.


We then met with Mrs Charlesworth who was very proud of the ambassador's hard work and signed off the Playground Charter to be used for all of our playtimes and outdoor provision.

Already keen to further embed children's rights across school, they have already begun work on a Dining Room Charter and are actively involved in consulting on and trialling our new CARE behaviour policy.

Well done Rights Ambassadors! We are so proud of your brilliant start to the year!

Mrs Cooper


PTA

 I'd like to extend a heartfelt and enormous thank you to our incredible PTA and all the parents who generously volunteered their time to support the PTA disco. Your commitment to creating memorable experiences for our children is truly wonderful. The evening was a resounding success, filled with laughter, music, and excitement that will undoubtedly linger in the minds of our pupils for years to come.

Events like these don't just happen by chance. They require careful planning, coordination, and a team of dedicated individuals working behind the scenes. Our PTA members have once again demonstrated their unwavering commitment to enhancing the school experience for every child at St. Paul's. Their tireless efforts in organising and running the disco deserve our utmost appreciation and recognition.

To the parents who stepped forward to lend a helping hand, your support was invaluable. Whether you were supervising the dance floor, serving refreshments, or assisting with set-up and clean-up, your contributions made a significant difference. It's this spirit that sets our school apart and creates a nurturing environment for our pupils to thrive.

Mrs Charlesworth 

 On Friday, 1st November 2024, at 3:20pm, we'll be holding our Annual General Meeting (AGM) for our Parent-Teacher Association (PTA). This gathering is a fantastic opportunity for all of us to come together and learn more about the vital role our PTA plays in enriching our school life.

The AGM isn't just a formal meeting – it's a chance for you to see first-hand how our PTA operates and the incredible work they do throughout the year. From organising fun events to raising funds for additional resources, our PTA is an essential part of what makes St. Paul's such a vibrant place of learning.

We're always on the lookout for fresh ideas and new faces to join our PTA team. If you've ever considered getting more involved in school life, this is your perfect chance. Whether you can spare a little time or a lot, your contribution would be invaluable. The PTA is a wonderful way to meet other parents, share your skills, and directly impact your child's school experience.

If you're interested in attending the AGM, we'd be delighted to see you there. To help us plan accordingly, please email stpaulsrawtenstallpta@gmail.com to confirm your attendance. Even if you're unsure about joining the PTA, coming along to the AGM is a great way to find out more without any obligation.

Remember, a strong PTA means a stronger school community. Your involvement, no matter how small, can make a big difference to our pupils' educational journey. So why not come along, meet some new people, and discover how you can be part of something truly rewarding? 📅 📅

Many thanks for all your continued support!

Bonnie Smith(PTA Chair)

St Paul's Mental Health Ambassadors



M&S | **YOUNGMINDS**



[myHappyMind Parent App Introduction - England & Wales](#)

myHappyMind is delivered in our school by our class teachers through a series of interactive lessons and then the children apply these learnings throughout the day.

To further embed this learning, myHappyMind has developed a Parent App. These resources can be accessed online on your computer, or through an app on your phone. The Parent App will support you as a parent in understanding what your child is learning, activities for you to do together at home and also a Kids Zone featuring myHappyMind Games plus much more!

To access these materials just go to <https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources> to create your free account. You will need to enter your name, email, and authentication code.

Your authentication code is 119367

Once you have created your account, you will receive an email with the next steps on downloading the app.

We really encourage you to make use of this free content so that you can support your child in getting the best out of the curriculum.

If you have any questions about myHappyMind, please contact your class teacher.

If you have any technical questions about accessing the resources, please contact hello@myhappymind.org



Dates for your diary...



- **Half Term break - Monday 21st October - Friday 25th October**
- **Return to school for the 2nd part of our Autumn term - Monday 28th October**

- **Individual photographs - Wednesday 13th November**
- **Flu Vaccinations - Thursday 28th November**

Have your circumstances changed? Apply for free school meals.



For any parents/carers, **whose circumstances have changed** and think their child(ren) may be entitled to Free School Meals, please can an application form be completed. Parents can apply electronically via the link below:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=3>

Registering for the Free School Meal service also means the school will receive additional funding for your child, which is called Pupil Premium.

Please note that younger siblings of pupils who are already entitled will not automatically qualify for Free School Meals. If a family's circumstances have changed and cease to be entitled to qualifying benefits, the elder children will be protected but any new children will not qualify. This is why Pupil Access Team require applications completing so they can properly assess new sibling's entitlement.

Influenza vaccinations

Flu Immunisation vaccinations will take place in school on THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, please follow this link to complete an online consent form.

<https://nhsimms.azurewebsites.net/session/032f5d11>

This link will close on the 14th November 2024

If you have any problems accessing the link please telephone 0333 3583 397, Option 2, Option 2.

In the meantime, if you have already taken your child to the doctors or chemist to have the Flu vaccine, please kindly inform the school office.

Thank you.

- Select our school using the postcode 'BB4 8HW '
- It will ask you to select 'Rawtenstall St. Paul's Church of England Primary School'
- Select Submit

Easyfunding



We're now registered with Easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use Easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is sign up and remember to use Easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE!

These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-pauls-rawtenstall/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=email-1

Attendance/Holiday information

Attendance to school is compulsory, all children must attend every day unless they are ill.

To enable us to safeguard our children, may we request that if your child is absent from school you, please telephone the school on 01706 215893 by 09:00am to inform us. If we have not received a call, a member of our office staff will call you to ensure that your child is at home and is safe.

What to do if my child is ill.

Despite school being cleaned daily using antibacterial solutions with the use of antibacterial soap and hand gels available for all to use freely. It is that time of year where Illness and viruses start to unfold.

- The NHS have a helpful guide should you wish to use this. [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)
- Please can you ensure that your child does not attend school for 48 hours after they have last vomited or had diarrhoea.

We are still encouraging good respiratory hygiene i.e. covering their nose/mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, discarding tissues after use and washing hands with soap and water. It is important to reduce the risk to others.

Can you authorise my child's absence?

As many of you are aware, we are unable to authorise any absences that are not illness related unless in exceptional circumstances. There is a 'leave of absence' form available from the school office however, we would ask that all holidays are taken within the holiday periods and not in term time, to avoid a fine from Lancashire County Council.

Important Update – Changes to Education-related Penalty Notices from September 2024

Information for Parents



You may be aware that the Department for Education announced national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes will come into effect on 19 August 2024.

The changes to be aware of are:

Please note that school does not receive any money for penalty notices.

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a **new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.**
- A second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period^[1]. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.

- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- This also includes pupils with persistent absences.
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

Absences can have a lasting effect on learning

Missing a week of school means your child will miss around 25 hours of learning
This creates gaps in their knowledge and could mean they will not meet their full potential

[1] A school week is any week in which a school meets at least once.

Holiday list 2024/25



School Holidays 2024/2025

AUTUMN TERM 2024

Staff Training Days Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Re-open Wednesday 4th September 2024

Mid Term Closure Monday 21st October -

Friday 25th October 2024 (inclusive)

Re-open Monday 28th October 2024

Closure after school on Friday 20th December 2024

SPRING TERM 2025

Re-open Monday 6th January 2025

Mid Term Closure Monday 17th February –

Friday 21st February 2025 (inclusive)

Re-open Monday 24th February 2025

Closure after school on Friday 4th April 2025

SUMMER TERM 2025

Re-open on Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Staff Training Day Friday 2nd May 2025

May Day Closure Monday 5th May 2025

Mid Term Closure Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May 2025 (inclusive)

Re-open on Monday 2nd June 2025

Closure after school on Friday 18th July 2025

Staff Training Days Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July 2025

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD WHO MAY BE BEING NEGLECTED...



If you are a young person, you can contact 2-10pm, 365 days a year.
Phone on 0800 51 11 11
Text on 07786 51 11 11
Email: talkzone@lancashire.gov.uk



NSPCC

If you are an adult or professional,
call 0300 123 6720



For more information
www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/neglect/



Lancashire Family Hubs

For more information, scan the QR code or visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/family-hubs/



Healthy Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

For more information, scan the QR code or visit <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/school-holiday-activities/>

because

FAMILY MATTERS

life

Time out for parent courses

new
era
enterprises



*Believing in you
Believing in Better*

Call or text 07877 714693

4X 2hr Sessions

Scan to book - in the drop down box, please make sure you select the course and date required

HANDLING ANGER IN THE FAMILY

Promoting healthy tips with our children & family members and strategies to handle anger better.

September 17, 24, & 1st, 8th October 6.30pm - 8.30pm
November 5, 12, 19, 26th 9.30am - 11.30am

ASD

Understanding autism and the way it affects your child. Support and strategies to help the family relationships.

June 4, 11, 18, 25th 6.30pm - 8.30pm
September 17, 24, & 1st, 8th October 12.45pm - 2.45pm
November 5, 12, 19, 26th 6.30pm - 8.30pm

ADHD

Understanding ADHD and how it affects your child. Support and strategies to help the family relationships.

June 4, 11, 18, 25th 9.30am - 11.30am
September 17, 24, & 1st, 8th October 6.30pm - 8.30pm
November 5, 12, 19, 26th 12.45pm - 2.45pm

THE TEENAGE YEARS

The Teenage Years can sometimes be a challenge. This course explores the issues affecting teenagers & their parents.

June 4, 11, 18, 25th & July 2nd 6.30pm - 8.30pm
September 17, 24, & 1st, 8, 15th Oct 1st, 8th 9.30am - 11.30am
November 5, 12, 19, 26th & Dec 3rd 6.30pm - 8.30pm

This week we have been learning...



Brilliant Berries

Wow! What a half term, I cannot believe how fast it has gone! Our Berries have settled in so well and made so much progress already in such little time, I feel so very proud to be their teacher and I cannot wait to see what the rest of the school year is going to bring.

The children have continued to blow me away with their learning in maths and English and we have thoroughly enjoyed reading Goldilocks and the Three Bears and immersing ourselves in the story. I am sure the children can recite it in their sleep.

In art this week, we have been exploring the used of different materials and creating a Daddy Bear using collage. Mummy Dear by painting and Baby Bear by printing! The Three Bears looks amazing!!

Monday will remain as our PE lessons and Berries will continue to come into school in their PE kits. Please ensure they have this on each week.

Dates for your diary

Forest School session: Wednesday 6th November

Flu vaccinations (nasal) - Monday 28th October

Individual photographs - Wednesday 13th November

I hope you all have a lovely half term break; I can not wait to hear about all of your adventures.

Mrs Taylor and Mrs Coleman

Amazing Acorns



What an amazing first half term the Acorns children have had! We have been super busy settling into school life and the children have done an amazing job at learning and following our rules and routines. We have been trying hard to write our names, blend and segment words, remember our phonics phonemes and understand numbers to 4. This week, we have finished the text of Goldilocks and the Three Bears and have been focusing on roleplaying the story.

PE and Forest School After the half term break, PE will continue every Monday. Children are required to bring their PE kit each Monday to school and get changed in class. Please practice getting changed with your child as they will need to get changed into their kit independently when we are back in school.

On Wednesday, we sent all forest school kits home. Please ensure these return to school by Wednesday 31st October.

Please also ensure all kit is labelled!

Dates for your diary

Flu vaccinations (nasal) - Monday 28th October

Individual photographs - Wednesday 13th November

Have a lovely half term break!

Miss Bliss.

Awesome Ashes



Wow! What a busy, productive and rewarding half term! Our brand new children in Reception have amazed me with how they have settled in so well, learning lots and trying so hard. Our Year 1 children have also worked hard, with a fabulous learning attitude, keen to show their maturity! I'm sure we're all ready for a well deserved half term break. Enjoy playing and relaxing a little more next week.

Curriculum news

In Maths, Reception have continued to learn about their numbers. Our Year 1 children have been working on addition using a part, part, whole model. In English we have finished our work on Traditional Stories and we have completed character descriptions for the fox and the Gingerbread Man this week.

PE After the half term break, PE will continue to be each Wednesday. Children are required to bring their PE kit each Wednesday to school and get changed in class. PLEASE practice getting changed with your child as they will need to get changed into their kit independently (including putting socks on!) when we are back in school. Please also ensure all kit is labelled!

Homework

Spellings have been set for the half term holiday. Children should also continue with daily reading practice (we recommend around 5 minutes each day).

Dates for your diary

Forest School session: Friday 1st November (first Friday back)

Flu vaccinations (nasal) - Monday 28th October

Individual photographs - Wednesday 13th November

Have a lovely half term break

Miss Fielding

[Super Sycamores](#)



Curriculum news

Wow, what a busy half term in Sycamores!

Thank you to all the parent's who attended the story reading on Thursday. All of the children were excited and proud to show you what they have been learning in our English lessons.

In Science we have been carrying out investigations this week. First we used our prediction skills to decide whether an item would float or sink. Then we tested them to see if our predictions were correct. Next we learnt about the word waterproof and tested different materials to see what the best would be for Carly the Cat's umbrella (a character in our story).

Next half term PE will be on Tuesdays - please bring PE kit on this day from Tuesday 29th October.

Forest school - Thursday 31st October

Homework

No spellings have been set for the half term holiday. However, children should continue with daily reading and times tables practice.

Mrs de Boutemard









Outstanding Alders



I cannot believe that we have already finished a half term. The children have settled into their new routines brilliantly and they have worked so hard. I hope that you all have a fantastic break.

Curriculum news

In Maths we have continued our work on addition and we will move onto subtraction after the holidays. In English we have started learning about real life wolves and we have been analysing the features of a non-fiction text. We have been busy painting with watercolours and learning how to play another note on the recorder: we now know b, a, g and c. In DT we have been building structures. Have a look at some of our fantastic clay models.

PE After the half term break, PE will continue to be each Wednesday. The children will need to bring their PE kits back before the first Wednesday back, these kits will then stay in school.

Homework

Spellings have been set for the half term holiday. Children should also continue with accessing TT rockstars to practise their times tables.

Dates for your diary

Flu vaccinations (nasal) - Monday 28th October

Forest School session: Tuesday 29th October (first Tuesday back)

Individual photographs - Wednesday 13th November

Miss Cavaney.

[Enchanted Elms](#)



Curriculum news

Wow what a super Autumn half term we have had, the children have finished writing their own chapters for A bear called Paddington. They have done an amazing job writing their own chapters. I'm so proud of them all. In maths we have been adding 3-digit numbers which has been so tricky after half term we will be subtracting 3-digit numbers. In History the children have been looking at what life was like working in mills as children and even wrote their own diary entry as if they were one of the children workers.

After half term, P.E will be just on a Tuesday we have the coach and then its outdoor slot for 7 weeks.

Forest School

Monday 28th October 2024

Monday 11th November 2024

Monday 25th November 2024

Monday 9th December 2024

Homework

No spellings have been set for the half term holiday. However, children should continue with daily reading and times tables practice.

Dates for your diary

Flu vaccinations (nasal) - Monday 28th October 2024

Individual photographs - Wednesday 13th November 2024

Have a lovely half term break.

Miss Cowgill

[Marvellous Maples](#)



What a busy and fun half term we have had. The children have worked hard and I have enjoyed getting to know them all.

This week, we have concluded our science experiment and have come to the conclusion that water and milk is best for our teeth and vinegar, apple juice and Coca-Cola damaged our teeth. We found that the vinegar had actually made the shell of the egg disintegrate and the apple juice and coke had stained the eggs quite badly.

In our guided reading sessions, we have been working on retrieval. This is where we use the text to find the information. The children are becoming much more confident at this but this is something that could be worked on at home, when they are reading to any adult.

Please can you encourage your child to log on to TTRS and practise their times tables.

I have reminded children that they must be in full school uniform as we have had a couple of children coming to school in their PE hoodies- these are for PE lessons only.

The children had a great time in forest school this week. The children have been bonding and learning to play cooperatively and kindly. They have had to use team work skills and cooperation when on the swing and when building dens and playing games. It was lovely to see so many children playing nicely together and having fun outdoors.

Next half term our PE days are as follows-Outdoor PE- Tuesday Indoor PE- Friday

Forest sessions will remain on Thursday and the first session after half term is- 7th November

School reopens- Monday 28th October

Have a wonderful half term break.

Miss Yates





Dazzling Elders



Curriculum news

This last week of the half term has been a busy one but what a super Autumn half term we have had. The children have been writing their independent non chronological reports in English - they've done a superb job. It has been a pleasure to read their work.

In Maths, the children have been focusing on choosing the appropriate method for addition whether the calculation can be done using a mental method, jotting or written method. Please can you encourage your child to log on to TTRS and practise their times tables.

As part of our indoor PE this half term, the children have enjoyed learning the rules of Boccia and applying it to a game situation.

Next half term our PE days are as follows -Outdoor PE- Monday Indoor PE- Friday

Forest sessions will remain on Wednesday and the first session after half term is - Wednesday 30th October

School reopens- Monday 28th October

Have a wonderful half term break.

Mrs Nolan





Wonderful Willows



This has felt like the busiest week we have ever had in Willow's, it has been jam packed full with so much learning and we are so impressed with how much we have achieved.

DT

For our DT topic we have been looking at cooking linked to our Vikings topic. We have studied the Vikings diet and the way they prepared and cooked their food. From this we have attempted to make our own Pottage (like vegetable stew) and Viking bread. We were so impressed by how much the children devoured the meal and wanted a second helping! After cleaning up, our children then evaluated what

they had produced. We will be sending the recipes home because many children are eager to make them again.

Science

At Forest school we are tying together two of our investigations. We have planned and designed two items to test. Firstly we are going to create a number of vessels to see which design is the best at floating. Then we are going to test our parachutes. Some children are going to see how far the parachute travels while other groups are seeing how long they can keep their parachutes airborne. Keep your eyes peeled for our results.

English

Our class have been immersed in their English work this week as it was their opportunity to produce their independent write. They have spent 7 weeks learning new skills, finding out about the Nowhere Emporium and adding new grammatical features. We are so excited to see what they have created with their vivid imaginations and buckets of enthusiasm. Ask your children about their stories, we are sure you will be impressed.

Dates for your diary

Forest School session: Tuesday 8th November

Flu vaccinations (nasal) - Monday 28th October

Individual photographs - Wednesday 13th November

Have a lovely half term break

Mrs Cooper and Mrs Todd





Mighty Oaks



It has been a busy but lovely end to the half term. The children have continued to work hard and it is amazing how much we have crammed into the first half term. They are thoroughly deserving of a holiday!

Curriculum news

In maths, we have continued our work in multiplication, securing our understanding of the grid method. We have also applied this learning to problems and how it may look in other contexts. We have been continuing with our novel of Goodnight Mister Tom in English, looking at themes and comparison of characters. We have also been putting our knowledge of the subjunctive form to the test.

Next half term, we will be writing our own narrative using the structure and plot of the story.

PE and Swimming

After the half term break, PE will change to Thursdays. Please ensure that the correct indoor kit and footwear are in school on this day.

Swimming will also continue each Monday until the Christmas break.

Homework

No spellings have been set for the half term holiday. However, children should continue with daily reading and times tables practice.

Dates for your diary

Forest School session: Tuesday 5th November

Flu vaccinations (nasal) - Monday 28th October

Individual photographs - Wednesday 13th November

Have a lovely half term break

Mrs Lee

St. Paul's Church Worship

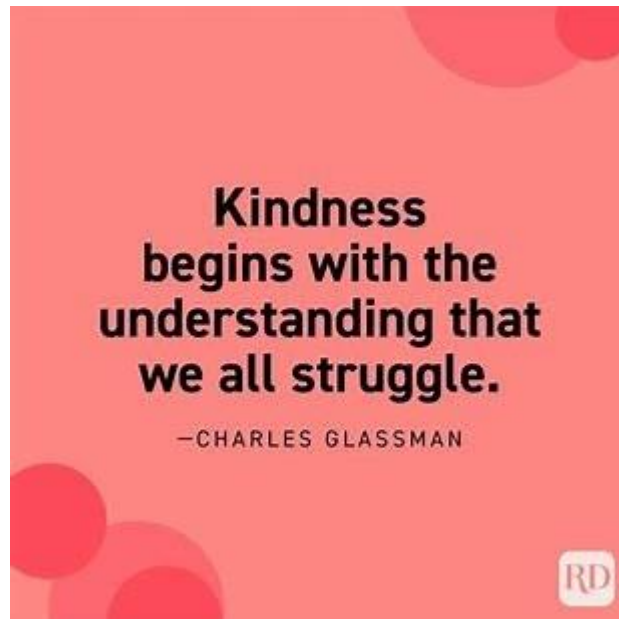


One of the monthly highlights our recent calendar was undoubtedly the Woody Church session held last Saturday.

The turnout for our forest church was truly remarkable. It was a delight to see so many familiar faces – pupils, parents, and extended family members – gathered together in our natural surroundings. The enthusiasm and engagement displayed by everyone present creating an atmosphere of warmth and community spirit that epitomises what we strive for at St. Paul's.

As we move forward, I encourage all of our families to continue participating in these and other school events. Your presence and involvement make a world of difference, not just to your own children but to the entire school community.

Reflective Friday



Hope you all have a wonderful half term break, filled with fun and laughter.

Kind regards

Mrs Charlesworth

